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Page .

Document No. 2662 - Part 12

## MATTER CONCERNING THE MURDER CASE IN HANKOW OF THE THREE AMERICAN PRISONERS OF WAR

Military Affairs Section

4 November 1945

Urgent Telegram

114

23 October 1945

To: The Vice Minister

From: The Chief of Staff of the Commander in Chief of the Expeditionary
Force in China

Sosan 2 Wire No. 682

For the purpose of investigating the murder case of three American prisoners of war who were killed at the end of last year in Hankow, a request was made on the 22nd for the arrest of eleven men, including General OKABE. Staff Officer MATSUURA (witness), and FUKUMOTO, M.P. Colonel, have been already taken into custody, and it seems that they are to be sent under guard in the near future to Shanghai. However, at the present time, General OKABE is ill in bed and we wish his arrest will be held up until his recovery. (It is estimated that several days will be required). In the said area, the surrender has not yet been completed. Furthermore, General OKABE is now ill, and the Area Army Headquerters was stationed at Nanyo at the time, and knew nothing about this incident until September of this year when American officers made inquiries. Therefore, even if General OKABE is arrested, the situation is such that there are no investigation materials with which to question him. Because of these aforementioned facts which have been requested in a previous wire, the Chief of Staff for the Commander in Chief today made the following earnest requests to the Ho Ying-Chin Headquarters:

"Make further investigations of Major-General KABURAGI, the Chief of Staff of the 34th Army at the time, and of 1st Lieutenant IZUMI and other required Army Group Headquarters personnel. If as a result, it is found necessary to arrest the Commander of the 6th Area Army as the responsible party, then arrest him formally; Or, if an immediate questioning is absolutely necessary, please hamle the situation amicably, so as not to hinder the execution of his present work."

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Free 2

Military Affairs Dispatch No. 786

Matters Concerning the Application for the Postponement of General OKABE's Arrest

To: The Chairman of the Tokyo Liaison Committee of the Army and Navy

From: The Director of the Military Affairs Bureau of the War Ministry.

24 October 1945

- 1. In regard to the matter mentioned in the title, I received information from the Expeditionary force in China as indicated in the separate telegram. Please ascertain whether or not it is a request from the Americans.
- 2. If it is a request from the Americans, explain the actual situation of the place to the Headquarters of the Allied Forces and request the temporary suspension of General OKABE's arrest, or at least the postponement of his arrest until he recovers from his illness.

Moreover, as in this case, when work is being carried out to clear up the termination of the war, the arrest of the highest responsible persons in various areas will have little substantial effect on the disposition of the incident. In fact, it will be disadvantageous because it will delay the business of terminating the war. Therefore, together with the aforementioned circumstances, make a request for the postponement of the arrest until the work is completed, and also request them to contact this Ministry beforehand.

Matters Concerning the Investigation of the American POW Case in Hankow

To: the Chief of Staff of the Shikoku Military District

From: the Vice-Minister

Riku Fu Wire No. 474

25 October 1945

There are investigation items concerning the American POW case which occurred at the end of 1944 in Hankow.

We want Major-General KABURAGI sent up to Tokyo, bringing along with him data of the time (data su and items of memory, and names of officers who were connected with the data as and who are at present in Japan Proper).

Pocument No. 2662 - Part 13

316. 3

Matters Concerning Sosan 2 Wire No. 682

To: The Chief of Staff of the Commander in Chief of the Expeditionary Force in China

From: The Vice-Minister

Riku Fu Wire No. 476

25 October 1945

In regard to Sosan 2 Wire No. 682, we must investigate the situation of that time, by promotly assembling the responsible parties who are now residing in Japan Proper. Therefore, we wish you to immediately inform us the names of officers who are presumed to have already returned home.

Urgent Telegram

26 October 1945

To: The Vice-Minister

From: The Chief of Staff of the Commender in Chief of the Expeditionary Force in China

Sosan 2 Wire No. 685

Riku Fu Wire No. 476 Return.

Major-General KABURAGI, MASATAKA, (Chief of Staff of the 55th Army) Captain KOIKE, NAOTO (T.N. May be read NAOMDO) (Military Affairs Bureau)

Although the following two officers are not at present in Japan Proper, please consider them in the investigation of responsible parties. Especially 1st Lieutenant IZUMI seems to be the most responsible person involved in the case. Since this investigation is thought to clarify the actual condition of this case, we submit for your reference the names of:

Major HINATA, YUKIO (Staff Officer of the 34th Army)
1st Lieutenant IZUMI, KIICHI (Attached to Headquarters
of the 34th Army)

Military Affairs Dispatch No. 750

27 October 1945

Matters Concerning the Staff Officer Acting for General OKABE.

From: The Director of Military Affairs Bureau of the Wer Ministry

To: The Chairman of the Tokyo Liaison Committee of the Army and Navy.

In regard to the above-mentioned Staff Officer, the Headquarters of the Allied Forces requested that the name of the said person be reported

Document No. 2662 - Part 18

31. 3

Matters Concerning Sosan 2 Wire No. 682

To: The Chief of Staff of the Commander in Chief of the Expeditionary Force in China

From: The Vice-Minister

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25 October 1945

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Pocument No. 2662 - Part 13

31 W 3

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. Document No. 2662 - Fer .2

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on this date, the 27th firsting we togethe report and no understanding se submitted, based upon the volume of support:

- It is difficult to make an investigation because the 34th Army, the unit concerned in this case, was transferred to the eastern part of Northern Korea just before the termination of the war and is now in the occupation zone of Soviet Russia.
- 2. Although at present it is difficult to find a staff officer who knows the detailed circumstances in the Expeditionary Force in China because of the above reason, since the situation is such, the present Staff Officer of General OKABE shall act in his place. The name of the Staff will be reported after receiving the report from the Expeditionary Force in China.
- 3. In regard to the present residents of Japan Proper who are regarded as being concerned with the 34th Army at the time, their names will be promptl reported after the investigation is completed.

Urgent Telegram

28 October 1945

To: The Adjutant

From: The Chief of Staff of the Shikoku Military District

Shi Gun San Wire No. 241

Major-General KABURAGI is expected to arrive around the 1st, after collecting investigation data.

Emergency Telegram

28 October 1945

To: The Vice-Minister

From: The Chief of Steff of the Commander in Chief of the Expeditionary
Force in China

So San 1 Wire No. 698

Riku Fu Wire No. 493 Return

Acting Staff - 6th Area Army aff Officer - Lt. Colonel MATSUURA, Satoru.

This person has already been taken into custody by the American Military Police on 22 October, in Hankow, and should now be in Shanghai.

Document No. 2662 - Pa. 1 ?

Militery Affairs Dispetch No. 723

29 October 1945

Matters Concerning the Name of the Acting Staff Officer of General OKABE

To: The Chairman of the Tokyo Liaison Committee of the Army and Navy

From: The Director of the Military Affairs Bureau of the War Ministry.

In regard to the case mentioned in the title, which was previously reported to the Headquarters of the Allied Forces. I have received the following report from the Expeditionery Force in China. Therefore, make a report to the Headquarters of the Allied Forces:

- 1. Office, Post and Name Lt. Colonel MATSUURA, Satoru, Staff Officer of the 6th Area Army.
- 2. This staff officer has already been taken into custody by American Military Police on 22 October, in Hankow, and should now be in Shanghai.

Urgent Telegram

1 November 1945

To: The Vice-Minister

From: The Chief of Staff of Shikoku Military District.

Shi Gun San Wire No. 249

Major-General KABURAGI and one other officer will arrive at Tachikawa in the afternoon of the 2nd.

MATTERS CONCERNING THE ARREST OF RESPONSIBLE PARTIES IN THE MASSACRE OF AMERICAN AIRMEN IN HANKOV

HANKOW "DEATH MARCH"

(from the Mainichi Shimbun, 4 November 1945)

According to the Chung Yang Sho wire, dispatched on the 30th from Chungking, the Allied War Crimes Commission has arrested one staff officer of the Japanese Army, eight Japanese M.P's and one Japanese civilian, a total of ten men. They are being held as the war criminals who killed three airmen of the U.S.Air Forms in Hankow, after forcing them to make a "Death March." Furthermore, General OKABE, Naosaburo, the Commander of the Central China Area Army (the 6th Area Army) is already being questioned about his responsibility in the case.

Document No. 2662 - Pa. 1 12

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Document No. 2662 - Pa. + 19

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For the support of the U. S. Operation of approaching the continental shore, the U. S. Air Force began in May of last year to fiercely attack Hankow, the strategic continental railroad center. As a result, our air force strength was consumed and the Chinese public began to lose confidence in the Japanese Forces. Because of this political crisis, the Central China Army and the Military Police planned this "Death March." Three American fighter plans personnel who parachuted to earth when their plane was hit during serial combat, were dragged out on 16 December of last year, and with their banks tied behind their backs, they were forced to march around the main serents of Hankow, accompanied by bands, and streamers which read "Hankow Bombing Devils," as if they were considered to be the ones who bombed hankow. The Chinese people formed lines, and committed violence such as stapping kicking and beaving, until they were in a dying condition. After this, they poured gasoline on the men and burned them to death.

Two days after this incident, for about three hours commencing at noon of the 18th, Hankow suffered a severe air raid by over 100 odd fighter planes and bombers including B-29's. Practically the whole city was reduced to ashes. The Chinese people who were fearfully shaken by this, continuously evacuated Wuhan and Sanchen, and Hankow became uninhabited. In other words, the "Death March" had an opposite effect.

### THE ATROCITIES AGAINST AMERICAN FLIERS IN HANKOW

4 November 1945

Major-GeneralKABURAGI

### I. Circumstances of the incident.

- 1. Since around autumn of last year, the indiscriminate shooting and bombing of the city of Hankow caused considerable damage to the homes of the citizens. Not only that, but the casualties inflicted upon the people, chiefly upon the Chinese forces, was great, and the indignation of the citizens gradually increased.
- 2. The Hankow Youth Organization (?) forced the American fliers who participated in attacks against Hankow, to march through the city, as a reprisal for the above-mentioned indiscriminate bombing and shooting. The citizens carried out beatings and violence against these fliers.

I do not have a detailed knowledge of the methods, means, and degree of the atrocity.



- 3. Before the above-mentioned incident was carried out, application for permission to do so was made to the 34th Army Headquarters by the Hankow Youth Organization (?). However, the Commander of the Army (Lieutenant-General SANC) would not give permission at first, because the ill treatment of prisoners of war is not only a violation of International Law, but would also have a bad influence upon the treatment of Japanese nationals interned in the United States. However, the Youth Organization repeatedly requested the permission for carrying it out, saying that the plan was a reprisal for the indiscriminate shooting and bombings and that it would be carried out under the responsibility of the Chinese people and that they will absolutely refrain from troubling the Japanese Forces. Consequently, the permission for the aforementioned was granted.
- 4. The Headquarters of the 6th Army was at the time of this case stationed at Nanyo. They were in command of the operation in the Southern Area, and not only did they have no information about this case, but they were also in no condition to actually direct this incident.
- 5. In regard to the detailed circumstances, aside from the aforementioned, these are not clear because the Headquarters of the 34th army has been transferred to Kankou in Northern Korea.

RETURN TO ROOM 361

該口二次內內米監督即三名祭舍事任二國天之件

四二〇、11、回

完 次 官 医部级遗嘱检察院長鼠 员 包三〇、1〇、二三

福沙二電話大八二號

2662, fax12

昨年宋嶷日三次ケル米董 停停三名缀 雪事件 取罰 人為 二十二日岡部大將以下一一名(必得參縣(驚人)顧 本態長大佐郎ニ詢引セラレ近ク上海ニ離 落セラルル モノノ如シ)倫智ノ中田アリタルモ岡部大路へ目下 病臥中ニテ以復(戦日ヲシスト判断セラル)迄引動 ヲ倶智セラレ医談方面へ次ダ設降モ完了シアラス且 岡部大路演中ニテモアり筒文方面専司令部へ事件賞 時 图 岳 二 アリ 本 年 九 月 米 草 翁 桜 ョ リ 水 事 件 二 闘 シ 造 宗七子ルル巡盗夕如ラザリシコトト子國部大路ヲ初 空スルモ記途二答フベキ資料全クナキ既約二ツキ前 電フ以子伝頭セル如う當時第三十回軍夢點長館木少 **路、泉中尉某人他所要兵國司令部職員ヲ寅ニ罰室シ** 京 / 結果 質任 者トッテ 第 大 方 面 草 司 � 官 ヲ 勃 智 ノ 必 要アラバ京ノ昭政メテ州智スルカ是非共今直ゲニ取 聞り必思トスル場合の現職ノ部行ニ支障チカラシム 九如夕野潭的三菩提下り医官何隱飲司令部二本日德 容能長ョリ部門ヲ具シ限益シ置ケリ

(線)

國物徵部七三大點

岡部大将ノ海智延期方申入レニ関スル件

图像二十年十月二十回日 圖 草 省 宜 節 居

國海 耳原区巡路 安員县四

「首覆ノ仔ニ師シ別電ノ如ク文部設造宜ョリ治路ア

リタルモ米個ノ要求ナルヤ百ゃラ臨メラレ陸

Doc 2662, Aut 12 云若少米例ノ學次チラバ現地ノ質情館トセラルルニ

付事情ヲ諡へ開部大路ノ協智ヲ一時中止スルカ少

クモ浜ノ流弧仮復迄治留ヲ延朔セラレ歴呂聯合草

司令部ノ諒解取付セラレ医

尚 不伴ノ如ク目下総職 随理 造上二訳 子各 方面 共現

也最高實任省トシテ華件随理二具你的效妙中點モ

アリ総国義語ヲ停酒セシムルノ不利ヲ次スベキニ

付伯智ヲ要スル傷合ニ武テモ兵ノ禁務完丁迄之ヲ

延期セラレ 直談 メ本省 二連絡セラレ 医係セテ申入

レ相成医

鎮口二次ケル米草仔思罪件罰空二四天九件 0 с 四回草管医珍默县 兴 回 创作配配中国部 (昭二〇、1〇、二五)

PURL: http://www.legal-tools.org/doc/616cb0/

# Doc 2662, that 12

医兔二郎恐ゃル節夜名等) 说行ノ上鎮木少將上京顏~當時ノ資料 (配當等項及業務 關係將 夜二 シ子現 在內田記十九年宋裝口米重停 12等件二間 > 訂 空事項 7 り

總沙二電第六八五號院 文官 支部級證章綜鈔談長課長 第 急 電 報 昭二〇、1〇、二六

图等距离四七大認道

圆型少路 簡末正正 (第五十五百多點長)

随意大尉 小浥直人(草 彭 局)

問 白ナラシムル線 ホリトモ 恩料セラルルニ付金 ノ任 苦ナルガ 如キヲ以テ 宮人ノ 副 空ハ 本事 伴ノ 質 懲 ラト シテ 罰 空 方配 鼠 相 原 医 信 二 泉 中 関 愚 モ 團 係 親 キ 質 筒 内 均 完 住 者 ニ ア ラ ザ ル モ 左 配 二 名 モ 書 時 ノ 質 任 弯

# Doc 2662, Aut 12

魄

隐草中尉 泉 憩一(第三十四章司令部附)险重少佐 日何辛夫(第三十四章容戬)

調の出た過額問言

囲部大路ノ代理タル奉伝ニ語スル佐

昭和二十年十月二十七日 國軍省置於局長

臨海軍原民巡告委員長以

告該解ヲ次メラレ度リタル首題藻欲ノ件ニ闘シテハ左記題旨ニ璋護シ報聯合皇司令部ョリ本二十七日中ニ氏名ノ魏告要求ア

ILJ Bag

- 現在ノ藩伝ラ以子代 型セシムル薬係ヲ京メ雖カルベキモ然ル場合 ハ関部大路ノス声に使り現在支那波道草内ニ 近テハ幕臂ヲ詳知セ

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現在內地在住者二付予八遊为二調空人上觀告ス長偷當時人第三十四宣覽係者卜思愷もラルル者/中

7

Doc 2662, Pax 12

(徐) 6年/(李) 1 日東河湾ノ源定チリ四年/(18年/) 1 日東河湾ノ源にナリロー第

福沙一電節大九八號 宛 次官 医部派冠趾癌學 影長領 息 急 息 電 觀 聞 二〇、1〇、二八

兵二尚引七ラレ目下上海二在九省二シ子同答試入配二十月二十二日該口二於子宗章賞代理乖僚 第六方面算受試區某中佐 被椅 强险 普葡尔西加二酰迟

直路發路七二三號

岡部大路代理憑係官民 名報告ノ係

昭和二十年十月二十九日 回宣省亚路局县

四海直原京巡游委員長四

郡ニ鎮告宿政民ノ彊り支訴派巡撃ョリ巡路アリタルニ付職合軍司令妻ニ聯合革司令部ニ申入レタル首屆ノ供ニ問少左記

13

10

一眼官氏名 第大方面電影談

图 瓦中佐 俗 箔 題

Doc 2662, Part 12

三泊引ゃラレ目下上海二在ル管

图 章 章 图 110、11、1

饱 次官 四國軍會國夢影長

图耳沙阿郎二四 大器

簡次少解外一名二日午後立川湾

(総)

ラ米草窓端二間スル件員し二次ケル米売行士庫祭事件費任者

及意兵隊子計整シタモノデソレニハ空中職子職監入部ラギコノ富大ナル政治的危端突破ノ當中交事流空兵力へ消耗シ中國民家ノ日本其ニ對スル信額作職法地談口ニ對スル機就ナ米空草ノ攻撃ニ我ガ作職ヲ宰制スル高開始サレタ大陸総節勧打選ノス國法岸コノ「死ノ行道」事件ハ昨年五月米置ノ大陸芸岸

# Dec 2662, Part 12

す市舎へ売ンド広徳二億シタタリヨのラ合ム駆爆選合百減十歳ノ養日大空館ガアタリコの等件カラ二日後ノ十八日正午カラ約三時間ニリ

イタノデアツタシ茲ロハガラ空キトチリ「死ノ行道」ハ競性果ラ第コレニ恐レ観イタ中国民衆ハ改英三億カラ債を逃避

「華件ノ内容」 競斗の路 競子の路 競子の路 競口三次ケル米証表行士三治スル急行事件 閉こく 11回

- 第二號化七月民龍中中配單人死伍容多徵 50 因少市民人贷款次使り市民住宅 11 相當人莅容 7 リッノミチラズ市工作年秋贸以來與口市第二對六ル鄉 達別協學 11
- **豊トシ子説口市省ノ京町ニ砂加セル米電気行士2款口市青年団(?)へ右無差別銃帰駅ノ戦復手**

# Doc 2662, Part 12

へるり、「より」、これは、「はいって、「はいって」がある。

ラズ、文本の関連を発展を一間シテハ群はシア

- ス又彰記招等シネザル供館ニアリグリ 第中ニシテ本学作二何等配知シアラザルノミナラニ 第大方面は今部八書時同岳ニモリテ南方ノ作歐指
- 住員員ニ帝医シアルラ以テ不関ナリの 『 南記以外ノ詳ロチル内容(第三十四直司令部分北

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- Pert 27. Investigation report concerning the treatment of Allied fliers in the central district of Japan. (Pert Two)

### CERTIFICATE

I hereby certify that the above investigation documents (in Japanese language) consisting of twenty-seven parts, were removed from the files of the First Demobilization Bureau, Tokyo, on 9 September 1946 and placed in my hands pursuant to demand AG 300.6 deted 9 September 1946. Thereafter on 17 September 1946 the above described documents were placed with the International Prosecution Section for translation.

/s/ Richard E. Rudisill
Lt. Col. QMC
Chief, Investigation Division
Legal Section, SCAP

於有調查於於1mg存在B大問首委員會調查報告 回多

/BATAN/

一篇、グン作弊然了後、末七年大利的人及化律信人取扱三開 K 与 競生日

以律為二於十八厘米利加人供看取以一層不知

三篇 小衛屬一於十八後衛差待門開入前衛教告

/PALAWAN/

四緒「パラワン」島事件関係者額直報告

/NEW GUINEA / /AITAPE/

五編ニーボニア島「アイクペト」がかい軍米が加人旅行十町省二 · 黑大二體和禁力

/ NEW GUINEA / /AITAPE/ 大緒ニーギューア島「ニーギューア」及「アイタの」」だけり更米がな 人然行士取扱一門又以軍米利加政府抗議二開入之報生

/CENTRAL CHINA THEATER/

中部支部方面一张下口不軍職員人名表

/RANGOON/

1の篇「アンアーン」」だケッなを考えは、関スと調査報告

一編「ビルマ」一次ケン係廣度應用等人間直報工口

介在監督抄庆及山了存在中大照阿本民衙門教告 回沙河

/BATAN/

一篇、ラン作野然了後、たと軍米却加入及比律信人取扱三間 K与数和

以律為二於少心軍米利加人供看取以買不報告

三篇 出作人以答為在其一所不知有数古

/PALAWAN/

四緒「パラワン」島事件関係者額直報告

/NEW GUINEA / /AITAPE/

日編ニーボート町「アイから、コニボケの田米生な人族作十町省」 ·馬大士體室執出

/ NEW GUINEA / /AITAPE/ 大緒ニーギューア島「ニーギューア」及「アイタペ」」だけと軍米利が 人然行士取扱一門又心軍米初的政府抗議一開入心報生

/CENTRAL CHINA THEATER/

中部支部方面一次下了日本軍職員人名家

(BIRMA) 三於十八度庸一関下十個查報告 (BIRMA) 直接一関下調查報告(以前於一人)

/RANGOON/

10篇「アンアーン」」だケッ学を考生は一関スト調査報生

二編「ビルマ」二於ケル係廣度待三門大小問直報古日入BIRMA

一三編 比島ヨリトブラジルルニテ輸送サレタル停房、状態一関 又小報告 (日本職送船)

一四編「ラクヨウ」九連籍一関下に資料(日本輸送船)

一五編「リスポン」九連雜三関スと資料(日本輸送部)

一天論極東縣役中軍法會議處刑容為後奏其他犯罪

華多一題人了年

1大編本川六十八度廣政宗所内体廣政於一開大八個直

松村日

八編 シラクを何ったとり谷を一関スク語を教告

一九編「ブラジル」丸一関スと資料(日本輸送船)

10篇 出律廣海城二於丁數以次之口本統第二日小職

送セラレタル登庫の取扱二門大い変料

三篇 比島二於少四東朱利加人侍養原取扱二関大小調查

. 被利0 川塘

どして及泰國問職道教説一後,分官唐使後言は 繼伯數部

日本國東部地區一共工以联合國後行士取扱一開大 川川雅 与智室報告

八川日涯 中部地區一花了一张各國旅行士張极三開火口補查 禁护 ( John 1 1 1 )

报一開大心調查報告 (第二部) 20 1七編 日本國中部地區二於七心联合國孫行士取報告 報告 本州二於七八侍庸取扱二開入2第二次 預查 1 日本國田部地區三於七八联合國孫行士取扱1 日本國田部地區三於七八联合國孫行士取扱

# 

> 海能部度軍中花 =44-ナイラーントントンを |S/ RICHARD E. RUDISITT

軍衛司令部法律局調查都是

# 黑 明 幸回

ラレクリの 類、蘇講、似東上國際検察部」保管と 一九四大年(昭和二十一年)九月十七日以後上記書令三00大一依りる,年中二枚×タリの 1九四大年(昭和二十一年)九月九日附法移局合 1九四大年(昭和二十一年)九月九日附法移局合 1八四大年(昭和二十一年)九月九日附法移局合 1八十一年一次日十一年)九月九日東法三代 1一七篇月り成ル上記誦直書(日本大)、一

> 海能部度軍中花 =44-ナイラド RNDISITT

軍衛司令部法律局調查如是